WE CLAIM:

1.   A multi-information-character surveillance imaging system comprising

an optical, daytime, color video imager having an imaging axis,

an optical, nighttime, light-intensified, black-and-white video imager having an

5   imaging axis,

a thermal imager having an imaging axis, and

housing structure closely containing each of said imagers as an assembly in

respective, cooperative, relative positions and conditions wherein they share a

substantially common point of view, with said three imaging axes oriented whereby they

10   are substantially bore-sight aligned at infinity.

2.   The system of claim 1 which further includes computer-controllable,

motor-actuatable drive structure operatively and drivingly connected to said housing

structure and contained imager assembly for producing selective and controlled

15   surveillance-motion tracking via generally horizontal panning and general vertical tilting

motions.

3.   A multi-information-character surveillance imaging method comprising

furnishing plural different scene-imaging instrumentalities, including (a) an

optical, daytime, color video imager, (b) an optical, nighttime, light-intensified, black-

5   and-white video imager, and (c) a thermal imager, with each of these imagers possessing

a respective imaging axis,

assembling such imagers in a closely formed arrangement within a common,

containing housing structure in a manner whereby the imagers share a substantially

common point of view, with their respective imaging axes substantially bore-sight

10   aligned at infinity, and

selectively, including plurally and simultaneously, using these different imagers

in such assembly to view a chosen scene.

4.   The method of claim 3 which further comprises preparing the housing-

15   structure-contained imager assembly for computer-controllable, motor-driven

surveillance-tracking motions, including generally horizontal panning and generally

vertical tilting motions, and as part of said preparing, drivingly connecting the thus-

contained imager assembly operatively to a user-operable computer.